

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 09593 231909Z

70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 H-03 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 IGA-02 DRC-01

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R 231815Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 334

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 9593

E O 11652 NA

TAGS ECRP EAID IBRD IDB ADB

SUBJ: IBRD PROJECT VISITS

REF STATE A7648 9/6/73

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: FINATT MET WITH IBRD RES REP QUIJANO TO ARRANGE FOR IFI PROJECT VISITS BY US MISSION OFFICERS. QUIJANO HAD NO OBJECTION TO VISITS BUT WISHES TO CONSULT INFORMALLY WITH BANK BEFORE MAKING ARRANGEMENTS. TO AVOID POSSIBLE CRITICISM HERE THAT US DOMINATES THE BANK AND TO REDUCE ADMIN WORK FOR SMALL RESIDENT BANK STAFF QUIJANO SUGGESTED A REQUEST PROCEDURE FOR USG WHICH MIGHT BE USEFUL TO EXPLORE IN OTHER COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

2. QUIJANO WAS ASKED FOR HIS COOPERATION IN ARRANGING FOR US MISSION PERSONNEL TO VISIT A LIMITED NUMBER OF BANK PROJECTS. IT WAS EXPLAINED THAT CONGRESS AND OTHERS WANT A BETTER IDEA AS TO HOW US RESOURCES WERE BEING USED BY THE IFI'S. FINATT STATED HIS BELIEF THAT THESE VISITS ALONG WITH SIMILAR VISITS IN OTHER COUNTRIES COULD IMPROVE CHANCES OF GETTING CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT ON IMPORTANT IFI FUNDING LEGISLATION IN THE FUTURE.

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PAGE 02 BOGOTA 09593 231909Z

PROJECT VISITS BY MISSION OFFICERS WERE EXPLAINED AS AN EXTENTION

OF EXISTING POLICY. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT US EDS, CONGRESSMEN AND TREASURY OFFICIALS HAVE VISITED MANY IFI PROJECTS.

3. QUIJANO STATED THAT HE HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO SUCH VISITS BUT THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO CONSULT INFORMALLY WITH THE BANK. FINATT STATED THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE WERE SOME DISCUSSION BETWEEN USG AND BANK OFFICIALS ON THIS SUBJ.

4. QUIJANO WAS CONCERNED THAT OUR VISITS MIGHT BE VIEWED BY SOME COLOMBIANS AS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF US DOMINATION OF THE BANK. IN ADDITION, HE THOUGHT THAT ONCE USG LOCAL OFFICIALS BEGAN VISITING PROJECTS OTHER EMBASSIES MIGHT ALSO WISH TO SEND OFFICERS TO SEE PROJECTS AND THAT HIS SMALL STAFF MIGHT HAVE TO SPEND A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME MAKING ARRANGEMENTS AND ACCOMPANING LOCAL VISITORS. TO ALLEVIATE THESE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS QUIJANO SUGGESTED THE FOL PROCEDURE, ASSUMING OF COURSE HE GETS THE GREEN LIGHT ON PROJECT VISITS FROM BANK MANAGEMENT. THE MISSION WOULD INFORM HIM IN ADVANCE OF THE SPECIFIC PROJECTS WE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT FOR THE YEAR. UPON RECEIPT OF THE LIST QUIJANO WOULD INVITE REPS FROM THE US AND OTHER MISSIONS TO ACCOMPANY HIM ON FIELD VISITS TO THE VERY SAME PROJECTS SELECTED BY US. FINATT STATED THAT GIVEN QUIJANO'S CONCERNS WE PROBABLY COULD ACCEPT THE PROCEDURES HE SUGGESTED.

5. QUIJANO STATED THAT HE WILL CONTACT EMB AS SOON AS HE HAS CONSULTED WITH WASHINGTON. DISCUSSION CONDUCTED IN A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE WITH MUTUAL CONCERN EXPRESSED FOR PROBLEMS OF BOTH PARTIES.

WHITE

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